

# Vermont Programs

*Making a Difference Locally*

## ***The Human Resources Investment Council***

Developed twelve regional Workforce Investment Boards (WIBs). The Workforce Education and Training grants trained over 2000 Vermonters for high skill/high wage jobs.<sup>1</sup>

## ***The Vermont ADA Coalition***

Sponsors training for individuals and organizations interested in helping businesses, community service organizations, art programs and other local programs that make their building and services more accessible to individuals with disabilities.<sup>2</sup>

## ***Supported Employment***

Gives Vermonters with severe disabilities the opportunity to be employed in real jobs for competitive wages.<sup>3</sup>

## ***Vocational Rehabilitation***

Delivers services leading to employment to people with disabilities and provide services leading to employment.<sup>4</sup> In 2001, Vocational Rehabilitation counselors assisted 1,179 Vermonters with disabilities to become employed.<sup>5</sup>

## ***The JOBS program***

*The Division of Vocational Rehabilitation*, in partnership with the Department of Corrections, Mental Health, and Social and Rehabilitation Services, JOBS offers vocational services and intensive case management to high-risk youth with emotional/behavioral disabilities.<sup>6</sup> It has achieved a 70% reduction in dependence on public benefits, and a 73% reduction in homelessness.<sup>7</sup>

## ***The Unified Plan***

Vocational Rehabilitation is part of the Unified Plan that was created in conjunction with the Departments of Employment and Training (DET), and the Department of Education. It serves eligible people with disabilities towards the goal of employment.<sup>8</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Human Resources Investment Council, 2001 Annual Report

<sup>2</sup> Access, by the [ADAinfo@NewEnglandADA.org](mailto:ADAinfo@NewEnglandADA.org)

<sup>3</sup> State of Vermont, Vocational Rehabilitation, 103 South Main Street, Waterbury VT 054671-2303

<sup>4</sup> *ibid*

<sup>5</sup> Vermont Vocational Rehabilitation, Osgood II, 103 South Main Street, Waterbury VT 04671-2303, 802-241-2186

<sup>6</sup> State of Vermont, Vocational Rehabilitation, 103 South Main Street, Waterbury VT 054671-2303

<sup>7</sup> *ibid*

<sup>8</sup> *ibid*

### ***Meals on Wheels***

A service that delivers meals for people with disabilities. In Fiscal Year, 2001, it had 338 Participants statewide.<sup>9</sup>

### ***School to Career***

The School to Work program guides current high school reform initiatives with disadvantaged youth in mind. Applied learning, integrated curriculum, career exploration, job shadowing, work-based learning, and learning through internship have increased opportunities for students and impacted their aspirations for the future.<sup>10</sup>

### ***Unified Sports***

There are currently 21 successful Unified Sports programs operating in Vermont. Unified Sports breaks down the barriers that exist between students with developmental disabilities and their non-disabled peers. It allows all students access to the same extra-curricular opportunities.<sup>11</sup>

### ***The Assistive Technology Project***

Provides public awareness and information dissemination activities relating to the availability and benefits of AT devices and services.<sup>12</sup> In fiscal year 2002, The Assistive Technology Project provided 570 technical assistance and training sessions to 1,587 individuals.<sup>13</sup>

### ***Vermont Equipment Revolving Loan Fund***

There is a Vermont Adaptive Equipment Revolving Loan Fund that is available to Vermonters with disabilities for adaptive equipment.<sup>14</sup>

### ***Division for the Blind and Visually Impaired***

The Division for the Blind and Visually Impaired (DBVI) is committed to providing statewide services to Vermonters whose visual disability create significant barriers to employment. In fiscal year 2001, DBVI worked with the VR program to help 75 persons become successfully employed.<sup>15</sup>

### ***The Offender Work Program***

Teaches proper work ethics and provides employment training to offenders.<sup>16</sup>

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<sup>9</sup> Vermont Center for Independent Living

<sup>10</sup> Vermont STW

<sup>11</sup> Vermont Department of Education

<sup>12</sup> Vermont Assistive Technology Program, 103 South Main Street, Waterbury VT

<sup>13</sup> *ibid*

<sup>14</sup> *ibid*

<sup>15</sup> Division of the Blind and Visually Impaired, 103 South Main Street, Waterbury VT

<sup>16</sup> Vermont Department of Corrections, 103 South Main Street, Waterbury VT